

# THE HIVE COLLEGE



“Senior leaders and managers create a welcoming and inclusive culture. They work well with parents, carers, the local authority and health and educational professionals to make sure that students make a good start at college”

## **Introduction to The HIVE College**

In 2013 Wilson Stuart School and University College Birmingham formed a partnership to set up The Hive College for learners from 19-25 with high needs such as physical and learning difficulties and sensory impairments.

In September 2016 The Hive became an Independent Specialist College which offers a variety of study programmes.

The College's mission is:

*To provide an environment with outstanding teaching, support and pastoral care, which will empower our students to achieve their career aspirations, access their community and take their place in society with as much resilience, perseverance and self-awareness as they are capable of achieving.*

Significant investment in accommodation, resources and staff has been made to ensure the successful delivery of our study programmes at the Hive College.

We have a highly skilled specialist team of managers, teachers and support staff in place that have experience in supporting students with SEND within the classroom environment, at work placements and out in the community. Due to the complex needs of some of our students there are 2 full time Nurses on site along with male and female Care Assistants to support with personal care.

As you read more about the LIVE, STRIVE and THRIVE study programmes we offer at the Hive College, I hope you will think they are exciting and really worth considering. If you enrol, I feel confident you will not regret it.



**Kim Everton**  
**College Principal**

# LIVE @ The Hive

The LIVE study programme focuses on preparing the learners for employment.

The college has very strong relationships with prestigious employers within the West Midlands region who provide meaningful work placements for our students on a weekly basis to support their transition into work.



The Work Placement Co-ordinator ensures that students are carefully placed with an employer allowing maximum independence, but with the correct level of support and guidance to suit each individual student. All students are accompanied by a Work Placement Supervisor when carrying out work experience activities with a gradual reduction in support leading to students being able to work independently. Work experience activities will assist students to identify their job preferences and produce a vocational profile to help achieve a job match to

suit their ability.

Many of our student's progress on to a Supported Internship which is a personalised study programme based mainly at an employer's premises where students are supported by a Job Coach. Job Coaches provide in - work support during the internship to ensure that the students are ready to take up employment at the end of the internship programme.

In addition to the work placements the learner's study Workskills as their core qualification along with Maths, English and ICT from Entry 1 to Level 2 depending on each learner's previous qualifications.

"Students who are preparing for employment and voluntary work in the community develop good practical, personal, English and Mathematical skills"

## **Ofsted Report (March 2019)**

LIVE learners also participate in Independent Living Skills and well-being activities such as basic cooking skills, fitness and gardening. They also participate in Young Peoples Sexual Health lessons delivered by the National Health Service.

The Hive College is dedicated to preparing the LIVE students for adult life to ensure that following on from their time at the college students will go on to employment or an Apprenticeship within their chosen vocational area.



We will continue to support students when they have completed their study programmes to ensure sustainability within the workplace.



“Students are rightly proud of the skills they learn in their work placements. They explain how the skills they have learned in sessions support them to work well in their placements. Employers value student’s contributions at work. Most students who complete their supported internships gain paid employment”

**Ofsted Report (March 2019)**



## **THRIVE @ The Hive**

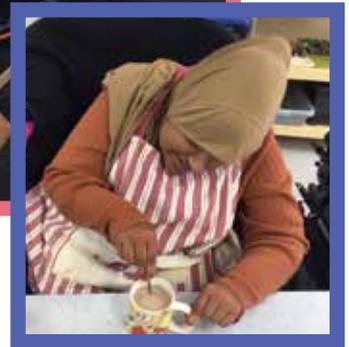
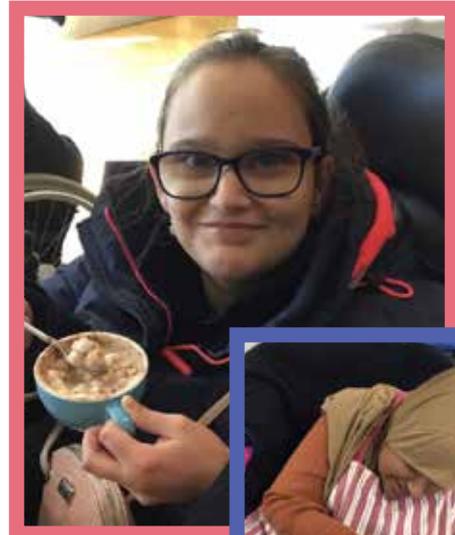


The aim of our THRIVE study programmes are to support students into volunteering roles or assist them with their communication skills and prepare them for adult life so that when they leave college they can participate in activities within their own communities.

The volunteering study programme has been developed to provide expert academic and vocational tuition, along with the advice, guidance and support necessary to facilitate the transition into volunteering roles and improve independent living skills.

The study programme's curriculum will consist of the following:

- Skills for Independence and Work
- Participation in a variety of volunteering roles
- Maths
- English
- ICT
- Independent living skills
- Health and wellbeing activities
- Community projects



Students will progress through the programme at a pace to suit their abilities. They will participate in a variety of volunteering activities within the local community supported by teachers and teaching assistants. They will achieve vocationally related qualifications that are practical based. Maths and English will also form part of the college week, along with personal and social skills needed to be able to progress into volunteering roles within or close to their own communities.



“Managers provide extensive volunteering and community opportunities. Students improve their timekeeping, personal hygiene, social skills and interpersonal skills”

**Ofsted Report (March 2019)**

## **STRIVE @ The Hive**



The STRIVE study programme offers an individualised curriculum centred around the local community, giving the students and their families opportunities to take part in the wider community and prepare them as much as possible for adult life.

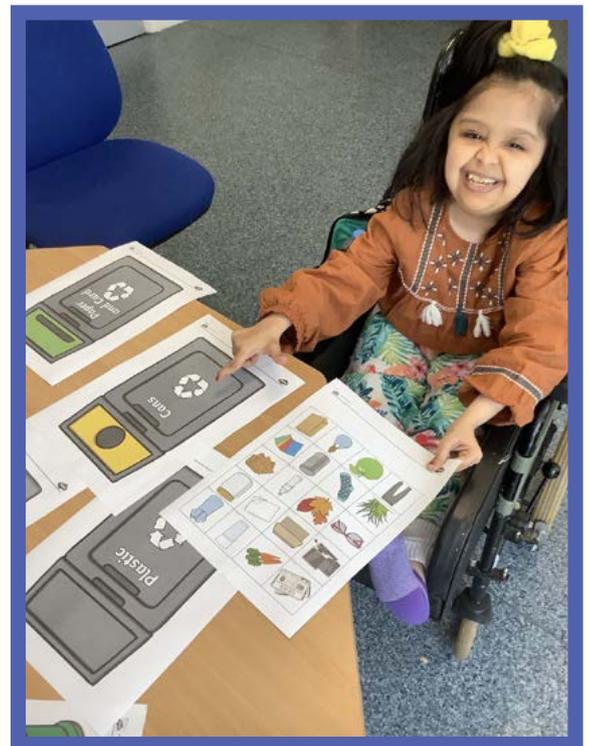
At the Hive students have access to the very best facilities such as large interactive classrooms with up-to-date technology, an outdoor sensory garden, a Hydrotherapy pool and Physiotherapy. We have a highly skilled specialist team of teachers and teaching assistants and a medical room which

has two nurses on site every day. We are dedicated to do all we can to help our students develop and succeed and expect our students to do their very best to achieve their goals and enjoy the opportunities STRIVE will provide

The curriculum is designed to **STRIVE** to:

- Be as independent as possible
- Be part of the community
- Be able to communicate desires and needs
- Be as mobile as possible
- Achieve individual goals

Within the STRIVE curriculum the students will use a variety of approaches to support their learning. Many students benefit from a sensory approach to learning and will use strategies such as objects of reference, photographs, symbols, switches and PECs to support their learning and communication.



Members of staff will work with individual students to ensure that they adopt consistent approaches to ensure students are secure in their learning. Students will be provided with opportunities to trial ideas and explore as independently as possible and allow appropriate time to notice and respond.

# Curriculum Content

## Communication and Problem Solving

Driving the curriculum is communication and cognition encouraging all students to think and learn based on their own personalised learning plan.



## Self-help and Independence

All students have an individual personal care and independence programme delivered ensuring their own specific needs are met to enable them to become as independent a citizen as possible within their own community. Each student's particular needs will be carefully analysed to ensure the programme works with their physiotherapy, aromatherapy, hydrotherapy, speech and language and medical plans.

## Physical

Individual functional plans are followed based on the students physiotherapy needs focus and requirements to access the community. The college Physiotherapist, dedicated to STRIVE students enables us to develop, deliver and review suitable physio programmes for each individual student. This facility will assist in maintain and improving students muscle tone, flexibility and movement to enhance their independence.

## Community Participation and Engagement

The team of dedicated staff at the college will set out a study programme based on the individual needs, community and location for each student. A Student and Family Support Worker will work closely with the students, staff and families to ensure that all our students gain access to what their community offers to suit their needs with the correct support in place.

“A minority of students with complex learning needs experience a sensory curriculum. Managers have designed this curriculum to enable students to take part in the wider community and make steps towards a greater independence”

**Ofsted Report (March 2019)**

## **Additional Information**

All students attend college 4 days per week

Transport is available for students on the STRIVE programme at a cost which is revised on a yearly basis. College staff can sign post to alternative transport provision for LIVE and THRIVE students where appropriate.

## **How to apply**

Application forms can be found on our website:  
[www.hivecollege.org.uk](http://www.hivecollege.org.uk)

## **Get in touch!**

If you have further questions about any of our study programmes or you would like to meet and talk to us, please contact:

**Tel: 0121 306 4800**

**Email: [enquiry@hivecollege.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@hivecollege.org.uk)**



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